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Patent

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): William M. Clark, Jr., et al.) Re: Information Disclosure
Serial No.: 09/696,826) Statement
Filed: October 25, 2000) Group: 2811
For: "IMPLANTED HIDDEN INTER-) Examiner: Thien Tran
CONNECTIONS IN A SEMICONDUCTOR) Our Ref: B-3650 617089-5
DEVICE FOR PREVENTING...") Date: August 9, 2002

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

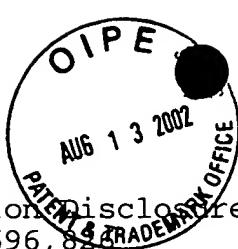
Sir:

In accordance with the Applicant's duty to disclose information which may be material to the examination of this application, the undersigned respectfully requests that the Examiner consider on the merits the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified) before issuing the next Office Action on the merits. We are enclosing herewith a copy of each document listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified).

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 C.F.R. 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists.

This IDS is being submitted after receiving an Office Action on the merits, but before receiving a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, and is accompanied by a check for \$180, which is the fee specified in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p). Thus, this IDS should be fully considered on the merits, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d). If any additional fees are due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 12-0415; or credit any overpayment to our Account No. 12-0415.

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The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. (Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.) Also, the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement does not constitute a response to the pending Office Action, mailed February 13, 2002.

The person making this statement is the practitioner who signs below on the basis of information supplied by an individual associated with the filing and prosecution of this application (37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c)) and on the basis of information in the practitioner's file.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as Priority mail in an envelope addressed to the "Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231", on August 9, 2002 by Courtney Comstock.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard P. Berg
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No. 28,145

LADAS & PARRY
5670 Wilshire Boulevard
Suite 2100
Los Angeles, CA 90036
(323) 934-2300

Enclosures: Form PTO-1449 (modified) (4 pages)
Copy of documents listed on Form PTO-1449 (modified)
Check for \$180.00